

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:78

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2004

DAMAGE TO CULTIVABLE LAND DUE TO FLOODS

Rawale Shri Mohan;Sarma Dr. Arun Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of recent phenomenon of damage caused to cultivable land by excessive infertile sandy deposition by flood instead of fertile silt in flood-prone areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the preventive measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 78 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 06.12.2004 REGARDING DAMAGE TO CULTIVABLE LAND DUE TO FLOODS

(a) Flooding is generally caused by the inadequate capacity within the banks of the rivers to contain the high flows brought down from the upper catchment due to heavy rainfall. As rivers carry lot of sediments alongwith water, some of the sediments get deposited on the inundated land. Nature of deposited material over the inundated area depends upon the type of sediments carried by the rivers. When the inundated area is near the foot hills, the material deposited is shingles & sand and when the deposition is in the plains, the material deposited is generally silt.

(b) The breakup of the area where the damage has been caused to cultivable land by excessive infertile sandy deposition by flood instead of fertile silt in the flood prone areas of the country is not available. However, the state-wise information on the area affected / crop area affected due to floods is given at Annex. I.

(c) Flood management being a State subject, the schemes for flood control are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves as per their own priorities out of their State plan funds which are made available to them through Planning Commission. The assistance rendered by Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

The problem of damage caused to cultivable land by excessive silt generally occurs in the rivers originating in the Himalayas and flowing down to the plains. Broadly, the problem can be tackled by construction of storage dams in the upstream. Agreement has already been reached between India and Nepal to take up field investigations and preparation of joint DPR of Sapta Kosi and Sun Kosi Projects by a Joint Project Office, which has been opened in Nepal on 17th August, 2004. The above Joint Project Office has also been entrusted to undertake the feasibility study of the Kamla Multipurpose Project and preliminary study of Bagmati Multipurpose Project. Agreement has also been reached in principle with Nepal for preparation of Detailed Project Report of Burhi Gandaki Hydro Electric Project.

In the North Eastern Region, the Government of India have already approved the Pagladiya Dam Project which is under execution by the Brahmaputra Board. The multipurpose projects in the Siang and Subansiri basins have been entrusted to National Hydro Electric Power Corporation who have initiated action for execution of the Lower Subansiri Project. Tipaimukh Multipurpose Project in Barak basin has been entrusted to North Eastern Electric Power Corporation for execution.

The Government of India is also providing Central assistance to the various States to take up critical flood management and anti erosion works.

Annex - I

STATEMENT SHOWING STATE-WISE AVERAGE/MAXIMUM AREA& CROP AREA AFFECTED DURING 1953 TO 2004

Sl.No. Nos	Name of State	Area affected in m. ha.	Crop area affected in m. ha.
	m. ha.		

Average Max. Year Average Max. Year

1	ANDHRA PRADESH	0.252	3.480	1989	0.209	1.405	1998
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0.015	0.207	2003	0.003	0.070	1993
3	ASSAM	0.955	3.820	1988	0.246	1.258	2004
4	BIHAR	1.436	4.986	2004	0.644	2.240	1987
5	GOA	0.000	Neg.	1974	0.000	Neg	1974
6	GUJARAT	0.319	2.050	1988	0.247	1.490	1988
7	HARYANA	0.176	1.000	1977	0.113	0.800	1977
8	HIMACHAL PRADESH	0.190	2.870	1999	0.084	0.476	1994
9	JAMMU & KASHMIR	0.029	0.514	1987	0.026	0.514	1987
10	KARNATAKA	0.060	0.900	1988	0.047	0.900	1988
11	KERALA	0.170	1.470	1989	0.062	0.578	1991
12	MADHYA PRAADESH	0.045	0.377	1994	0.029	0.377	1994
13	MAHARASHTRA	0.058	0.391	2002	0.053	0.391	2002
14	MANIPUR	0.014	0.080	1989	0.008	0.080	1989
15	MEGHALAYA	0.004	0.095	1987	0.004	0.095	1987
16	MIZORAM	0.010	0.541	1993	Neg.	0.003	1993
17	NAGALAND	Neg.	0.009	1993	Neg	0.009	1993
18	ORISSA	0.457	1.400	1960	0.292	1.200	1982
19	PUNJAB	0.399	2.790	1988	0.304	2.790	1988
20	RAJASTHAN	0.307	3.260	1977	0.177	3.090	1977
21	SIKKIM	0.026	1.170	2000	0.013	0.600	2000
22	TAMILNADU	0.078	1.280	2002	0.043	0.330	1976
23	TRIPURA	0.029	0.330	1963	0.009	0.053	1993
24	UTTAR PRADESH	1.955	7.340	1978	1.087	5.200	1979
25	WEST BENGAL	0.786	3.080	1978	0.275	1.511	2000
26	A & N ISLAND	0.001	0.030	1988	0.001	0.030	1988
27	CHANDIGARH	0.000	0.000	1953	0.000	0.000	1953
28	D & N HAVELI	0.001	Neg.	2003	0.000	Neg.	1976
29	DAMAN & DIU	0.000	0.000	1953	0.000	0.000	1953
30	DELHI	0.028	0.458	1977	0.012	0.155	1997
31	LAKSHADWEEP	0.000	Neg.	1978	0.000	Neg.	1978
32	PONDICHERRY	0.002	0.050	1977	0.001	0.012	1991